Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 395194 ORIGIN AF-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 295194

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 295194 ACTION BISSAU DTD 03 DEC

QTE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 295194

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, CV, ICAO

SUBJ: PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A SAL OCEANIC FLIGHT

INFORMATION REGION (FIR)

1. QUESTION OF SAL OCEANIC FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION NOT EXPECTED TO ARISE IN ICAO AIR NAVIGATION COMMISSION FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER TWO WEEKS AND PERHAPS NOT UNTIL LATE JANUARY, THUS GIVING U.S. MORE TIME TO FORMULATE ITS POSITION. EMBASSY WILL BE INFORMED OF U.S. POSITION BEFORE ISSUE CONSIDERED IN ICAO AIR NAVIGATION COMMISSION AND COUNCIL.

2. AT ICAO AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN REGIONAL AIR NAVIGATION MEETING IN JAN/FEB 1973, SIERRA LEONE, GUINEA, AND LIBERIA JOINTLY REQUESTED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ROBERTS FIR. THEIR RATIONALE WAS THE PROSPECTIVE ELIMINATION OF DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE UNITS IN THESE STATES AND THE DAKAR FLIGHT INFORMATION CENTER (FIC) (WHICH CONTROLS THE FIR OVERLYING THESE STATES). THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ROBERTS FIR WAS BITTERLY OPPOSED BY THE ASECNA MEMBER STATES LED BY SENEGAL. THE MEETING AGREED CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 395194

TO ESTABLISH THE ROBERTS FIR BUT A COMPROMISE WAS REACHED

WHICH PLACED AN UPPER LIMIT AT FLIGHT LEVEL 245. THE THREE STATES CONCERNED ACCEPTED THIS UPPER LIMIT BUT INDICATED THEY MIGHT PROPOSE ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS AFTER FURTHER EXPERIENCE IN WORKING WITH THE DAKAR FIC. WHEN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS FIR WAS DISCUSSED, SIERRA LEONE ADVISED THAT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WOULD BE REQUIRED AND THE THREE STATES WOULD APPROACH ICAO. HOWEVER, THE ROBERTS FIR HAS NEVER BEEN IMPLEMENTED. KISSINGER UNQTE KISSINGER

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TAGS: EAIR, CV, US, ICAO, SAL, FIR

To: DAKAR

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